

FAULT-TOLERANT DISTRIBUTED SYSTEM FOR COLLABORATIVE  
COMPUTING

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

10 A fault-tolerant distributed collaborative  
computer system is provided that comprises a plurality  
of server computers interconnected via a high-speed  
link. By replicating the conference information on  
more than one server computer, the single point of  
failure limitation is eliminated. In fact, if a server  
hosting or participating in a conference malfunctions,  
15 the failure is detected by other server computers and  
the client computer is able to reconnect to the  
conference through a new server computer. In addition,  
the state of processes executed by the server computers  
is periodically replicated, so that when failure of a  
20 process is detected a new processes can be spawned and  
the replicated state information loaded onto the new  
process, allowing the on-line conference to continue.